

# Threatened and Endangered Species in Forests of Wisconsin

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# KITTEN TAILS

(*Besseyia bullii*)

**Federal Status:** Not Listed

**State Status:** Threatened

**Description:**

Kitten tails are identified by their low-lying, basal rosette of hairy, oval leaves with small teeth, and long stems. From April to late May, each plant sends up an 8- to 16-inch spike



of numerous yellow flowers. Kitten tails usually are found in small scattered patches.

**Habitat:** Kitten tails are typically found in mixed oak forests, woodlands and savannas, or on the edges of forests in sandy or gravelly, well-drained soil.



**Forestry Considerations:** Forestry is compatible with the survival of Kitten tails unless there is severe habitat modification or disturbance. This plant is susceptible to excessive canopy closure and erosion. Single-tree or group-selection silviculture in oak forests that results in small scattered openings is desirable. Logging during the winter months would be preferred.

